(d) The numbers of revocations to the detention orders made by the Central Government and State Governments as reported by them during the period (*i.e.* from 1998 to 2006) are given below:—

Year	No. of revocations by the Central Government	No. of revocations made by the State Governments
1998	6	3
1999	6	8
2000	Nil	12
2001	Nil	4
2002	Nil	3
2003	4	8
2004	1	7
2005	Nil	23
2006 (Upto 20.7.2006)	1	4

Relaxing the conditions for import

451. SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to relax the conditions for import of wheat, sugar and other commodities;

(b) if so, by when such a decision was taken;

(c) the details of reasons prompting Government to take such a decision;

(d) the details of imported commodities, so far; and

(e) the impact of this decision on the prices of commodities in our local market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (c) In order the enable wider participation by suppliers in the global tender called for by the STC for import of 30 lakh

tonnes of wheat, some of the quality and phytosanitary specifications were relaxed by the Cabinet in its meeting held on 2nd and 16th June, 2006. Further, in order to stabilize the wheat, pulses and sugar prices, which continued to show rising trend, the Government has, on 22-6-2006 approved for bringing import of wheat under Open General License (OGL) at a reduced import duty of 5% till 31-12-2006.

The Government has decided to allow import of white sugar at zero percent duty but with countervailing duty and a Notification dated 23-6-2006 permitting import of white sugar without any quantitative restrictions upto 30.9.2006 has been issued in this regard. To contain the rising prices of pluses, Government has allowed import of pulses at zero duty till 31-3-2007.

(d) 92,000 MTs of wheat has reached Indian ports and balance 4-08 lakh MTs of wheat of first tender and 30 lakh tonnes of subsequent tenders shall start arriving from July end/August.

NAFED has already contracted for import of 30,000 MT of pulses which are expected to arrive by August, 2006.

(e) The rising trend in prices has been halted and prices are expected to come down on arrival of the commodities in Indian markets.

Availability of pulses at reasonable rates

†452. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are making available pulses on reasonable rates on ration shops keeping in view their increasing prices;

(b) if so, the names of pulses being made available; and

(c) the quantity of pulses being provided to each individual?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Government are not distributing pulses under the Public Distribution System (PDS), at present.

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†Original notice of question was received in Hindi.